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Deut 30:10-14; Col 1:15-20,  
Lk 10:25-37

**Psalm Response:** Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Servers**

14 July Paul Harris  
21 July Michelle Davis

**Readers**

|         |                       |                 |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 14 July | 1st Reader            | Christa Buckley |
|         | 2nd reader            | David Buckley   |
|         | Welcome/Intercessions | Pat Wicks       |
| 21 July | 1st Reader            | Breda Seamons   |
|         | 2nd reader            | Barbara Grieves |
|         | Welcome/Intercessions | Patricia Dee    |

**Communion**

14 July Mary Roberts / Carla Endean  
21 July Elizabeth Doolan & Grahame Adams

**Counters**

14 July Pamela and John  
21 July Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

**Morning Tea**

14 July Cate Mitchell  
21 July Dave Harris

**Church Care**

26 July Pat & Phil Wicks

**St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley**

**Entrance Ant:** As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

**Communion Ant:** The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

**Saints Days of the Week (15 July - 20 July)**

|      |                                      |                   |
|------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 15th | St Bonaventure                       | Doctor, teacher   |
| 16th | Our lady of Mt Carmel                |                   |
| 17th | martyred Carmelite Nuns of Compiegne |                   |
| 18th | St. Dominic Nicholas Dat             | Vietnamese martyr |
| 19th | St. Felix of Verona                  | Bishop, martyr    |
| 20th | St. Margaret of Antioch              | martyr            |



**15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 14/7/19**

*Who is my neighbour? Over recent years, According to the United Nations at the end of 2012 there were around 10.5 million people seeking refuge from war, poverty, or famine. While the papers can make it appear that we are being inundated with asylum seekers, the facts are that a very small percentage of the millions seeking asylum come here. So when I ask the question who is my neighbour I think of real mothers and fathers seeking a chance for life for themselves and their children. Who can be a neighbour for them?*

© Mary Coloe

**Next Week:**

Gen 18:1-10; Col 1:24-28;  
Lk 10:38-42

**PARENTS' ROOM:**

The Sacristy, which contains a few books and toys, is available for parents to use when young children are restless. We hope this makes it a little easier for you and your littlies.



# Sacred Heart Parish

Sacred Heart Church ~ Blackheath  
Saint Paul's Church ~ Mount Victoria  
Saint Joseph's Church ~ Megalong Valley

As a community bonded together through faith, we are called to share our experience of God with those we meet each day, in particular, those in our local community.

*We acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to the elders past and present, including those who may be with us today.*

|                        |  |               |
|------------------------|--|---------------|
| <b>Blackheath</b>      | <b>Sunday Mass</b>                             | <b>9.30am</b> |
| Evening Mass           | Tuesday  | 6.30pm        |
| Morning Mass           | Wednesday, Friday and Saturday                 | 9.00am        |
|                        | Thursday                                       | 8.00am        |
| Benediction            | 2nd Saturday after 9.00am Mass                 |               |
| Exposition             | All other Saturdays after 9.00am Mass          |               |
| Reconciliation         | Saturdays                                      | 9.30am        |
| Healing Mass           | 1st Saturday of the month                      | 9.00am        |
| <b>Mount Victoria</b>  | <b>Vigil Mass</b> (1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays) | <b>5.00pm</b> |
| <b>Megalong Valley</b> | <b>Vigil Mass</b> (2nd and 4th Saturdays)      | <b>5.00pm</b> |

**Administrator:** Father Bob Sheridan OAM **Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540

**Parish House:** 0455 104 994.

**Parish Mobile:** 0417 355 479

(Emergency only)

**Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm

Fri 12.00 - 3.00pm

**E-mail:** blackheath@parracatholic.org

**Parish House:** 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath. 2785

**Sacred Heart Church:** 167 Wentworth Street, Blackheath.

**St Paul's Church:** 65 Great Western Highway, Mount Victoria.

**St Joseph's Church:** 1270 Megalong Road, Megalong Valley.

For Baptisms, Marriages and sick calls, please contact the Parish House.

**Parish Pastoral Council** meets the 4th Sunday of each month.

If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to either Fr Bob; Diana Landsberg (Chair); John Barclay (Deputy Chair) or Patricia Dee (Secretary).

**Sacred Heart Care Group** (helping parishioners in times of need) call Monica Bright 4757 3943.

**BULLETIN ITEMS:** Please contact the Parish Office on Wednesday or Thursday during office hours on 4787 8540 or email [blackheath@parracatholic.org](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

**Website:** <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>

[www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/](https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/)

Margaret Thatcher once claimed that the Parable of the Good Samaritan showed Jesus' endorsement of the benefits of capitalism! The Baroness' logic ran that the hero of this famous story is the one who could afford to pay for the victim's care. She surmised that the reason the Samaritan had the wherewithal to do such a charitable act was because he worked hard and saved his money wisely. Her Ladyship said this central Christian parable was a justification of her government's policies demanding that unemployed people work for social security and be educated about saving their pennies.

Politicians should stay away from biblical interpretation and theology. It has a habit of saying the opposite of what they think or want it too. Like many people, Lady Thatcher reads this parable in terms of charity and even then she is not really right. Jesus, however, says it is a lesson in mercy. The difference matters.

It is not by accident that the phrase 'as cold as charity' is still current. Deciding on whom we will be kind to, just based on our 'warm fuzzies' and the glow of our purses, may make us feel good; but it will result in a very wintry experience for the not-so-lucky recipient. When we 'do' charitable things, we can often remain powerful and untouched by the situation of those our money helps.

St Thomas Aquinas, however, calls charity the mother of all virtues. He argues it is more concerned with the feelings of the heart than external action. Aquinas maintains that charity enables us to sort through our desires, to see what we really want – whom we actually love; it helps us use the other virtues to act accordingly. Christian charity is not a feel-good moment; it is a life-changing experience. Understood this way, the Good Samaritan can be a great example of charity, but quite differently from that outlined in the Gospel according to Margaret!

For Jesus, nonetheless, he is a model of mercy. The Good Samaritan is not 'good' because he has the money to act on what he sees. His greatness is that he has eyes to see it at all. To really see it. The priest and the morality-teaching levite pretend it's not happening and walk on the other side of the road. But the most unlikely, the least liked person in Israel – a Samaritan – has the view of mercy.

Christian tradition teaches us that mercy and justice are intertwined. Thomas Aquinas says that mercy helps us hear, and justice calls for us to do something. The Samaritan does what he can at the scene of the crime and then he takes the victim with him. He not only sees, but judges and acts. In doing so, he breaks nearly every religious and social law in the book; but it doesn't matter. The virtues of mercy and justice enable us to see all sorts of things more clearly, even civil and religious laws that inhibit the justice of God.

This entire episode in Luke's Gospel is about the movement from an individualised faith, which can think that it is just 'me and Jesus against the world', to a faith that goes out to the world acting mercifully and justly. This parable is about what we see, whom we love, and what we want to do about it.

The example of the Good Samaritan should enliven our charity, mercy and justice; and it should challenge us to see clearly who needs to be carried with us on the Gospel road.

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#### CATALYST FOR RENEWAL REFLECTION MORNING

Saturday, 20th July, Santa Maria Hall, Lawson (next to the Our Lady of Nativity church), 9:30am to 12:30pm (or welcome to come for part of the morning).

Presentation to be given by guest speaker Angela Moore on "Raising Holy Sparks... Introduction to Jewish Mysticism". Entry by donation. No need to book. For more information contact Carol Teodori 4758 7549. The program is also on the Catalyst for Renewal website [catalystforrenewal.org.au](http://catalystforrenewal.org.au)

**PRE-MARRIAGE PREPARATION** - The Diocese of Parramatta now offers two marriage preparation programs for couples. From the *Life Marriage and Family Office*, all details are available at [parracatholic.org/pmp](http://parracatholic.org/pmp) or to speak to a course coordinator contact phone: 02 8838 3460 or email [lmf@parracatholic.org](mailto:lmf@parracatholic.org). Brochures are available in our brochure stand.

#### EARTH MINISTRY PROJECT

There will be a meeting for the Earth Ministry Project on August 4 from 11.00am-12.00noon to review our goals and discuss further direction

#### PLASTIC FREE JULY

Join the millions around the world supporting this Australian initiative aiming to reduce plastic consumption and plastic waste. <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

#### THANKYOU ~

Members of the Blackheath St Vincent de Paul Conference would like to express our appreciation to parishioners for their generosity in our recent Winter Appeal. The total amount raised from the Parish Appeal was \$1,946.60. A wonderful effort from our Parish. The money raised in the Winter Appeal will help us to help those in need. Karen Hayward – President Blackheath Conference

#### Serving at the Altar: 3 August

The Office for Worship is organising a formation day for Adult Servers and Acolytes. The formation day will be held on Saturday 3 August at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown, from 9.30am until 2.30pm. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. To RSVP, please contact the Office for Worship team on 02 8838 3456 or [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

#### Happy Birthday !

19th Christa Buckley



Please pray for the sick and their carers:  
*Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Pat Frazer and Tatiana Schultz and Elizabeth Farrar's sister Mary Rose.*

#### CAPAH POST CARD STORIES LAUNCH

The Diocese of Parramatta Social Justice Office in partnership with Citizen Action Penrith Affordable Housing (CAPAH) and WestWords would like to invite you for the launch of CAPAH's Post Card Stories Project, 'A Home 4 All'. The post card stories give a human face and an emotional connection to the issue of housing stress and lack of affordable and secure housing in the Penrith LGA. The Deputy Mayor Councillor Greg Davies will launch the post card stories.

Date: Sunday, 21 July 2019

Time: 11am for 11:30am start

Venue: Parish Meeting Room 1, St Nicholas of Myra Church, Penrith

Light Lunch: 1pm - 1:30pm

RSVP by: Monday 15 July 2019

Register for this free event at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/capah-post-card-stories-launch-tickets-63328707870>

#### Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses

The Office for Worship is taking enrolments for its Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses for those who are interested in being Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion or Bringing Communion to the Sick and Dying. The course will be at the Institute for Mission (Downstairs Hall). **NOTE: Introduction Session on 12 August is compulsory. Enrolments close on 5 August 2019.** Please see your Parish Office for a form or for more information, contact

0288383456

or [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

18th Keith Malkin

18th Fr Alex Sciberras

18th Ray Lee (d 2014)

19th John Briggs (d 2006)

20th Monica van Horen (d 2014)

